

**WHAT IS CLAIMED:**

1           1.       An electrical medical electrode connector comprising:  
 2           a housing, wherein at least one end of the housing forms a cable connector;  
 3                 an electrical conductor electrically connected to a socket within a shell of the  
 4           cable connector; and  
 5                 identifier disposed within the housing that communicates information to a  
 6           defibrillator.

1           2.       The electrical medical electrode connector of claim 1 further comprising  
 2           a pair of defibrillator electrodes electrically connected to the housing.

1           3.       The electrical medical electrode connector of claim 1 further comprising  
 2           a set of monitoring pads electrically connected to the housing.

1           4.       The electrical medical electrode connector of claim 3 wherein a plurality  
 2           of electrode pads are provided.

1           5.       The electrical medical electrode connector of claim 4 wherein three  
 2           electrode pads are provided.

1           6.       The electrical medical electrode connector of claim 4 wherein five  
 2           electrode pads are provided.

1           7.       The electrical medical electrode connector of claim 4 wherein twelve  
 2           electrode pads are provided.

1           8.       The electrical medical electrode connector of claim 1 wherein the  
 2           identifier communicates an identification value selected from the group consisting of:  
 3           light amplitude, wavelength, polarization, hertz, resistance, capacitance, gauss,  
 4           electrical contact.

5           9.     The electrical medical connector of claim 1 wherein the identifier is  
6     selected from the group consisting of: optical, electromechanical, electrical, resistive,  
7     capacitive, and magnetic.

1           10.    A defibrillator comprising:

3                     at least one electrode pad having an electrode pad type operable to  
4     contact a patient;

5                     a medical electrode connector, connected to the defibrillator electrode  
6     pad on one end and the defibrillator on the other end, operable to identify the  
7     electrode pad type to the defibrillator;

8                     a front-end circuit operation to be coupled to the electrode pad and to  
9     receive identification information from the electrode pad;

10                    a shock delivery circuit coupled to the electrode pad; and

11                    a processor coupled to the front-end and shock delivery circuits and  
12     operable to determine whether the patient is experiencing a shockable heart  
13     condition and to enable the shock-delivery circuit to deliver a shock to the  
14     patient via the electrode pads if the processor determines that the patient is  
15     experiencing a shockable heart condition.

1           11.    The defibrillator of claim 10 wherein the medical electrode connector is  
2     removably connectable to the defibrillator.

1           12.    The defibrillator of claim 10 wherein the medical electrode connector is  
2     removably connectable to the electrode pads.

1           13.    The defibrillator of claim 10 wherein medical electrode connector has  
2     an identification module operation identify the electrode pad type to the defibrillator.

1           14.    The defibrillator of claim 13 wherein the identification module  
2     communications at least one identification value to the defibrillator.

1           15.    The defibrillator of claim 14 wherein the identification value is selected  
2    from the group consisting of light, open/short, resonant frequency, resistance,  
3    capacitance, or gauss.

1           16.    The defibrillator of claim 10 wherein the defibrillator further comprises  
2    an identifier receiver operable to interface between the medical electrode connector  
3    and the front-end circuit.

1           17.    A method of deploying a defibrillator comprising:  
2    turning the defibrillator on;  
3    attaching electrode pads to a patient;  
4    inserting a cable connector associated with the electrode pads into a housing  
5    for receiving the cable connector within the defibrillator;  
6    identifying the type of electrode pads based on an identifier within the cable  
7    connector associated with the electrode pads;  
8    altering therapy delivered by the defibrillator based on the type of electrode  
9    pads identified; and  
10   altering patient care instructions such as CPR based on the type of electrode  
11   pads identified..

1           18.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2    adjusting the amount of energy delivered to a patient in response to the electrode  
3    pad identification.

1           19.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2    lowering the amount of energy delivered to a patient if the electrodes are identified  
3    as infant electrodes.

1           20.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2   lowering the amount of energy delivered to a patient if the electrodes are identified  
3   as child electrodes.

1           21.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2   following a default therapy protocol if the electrode identification value is not  
3   recognized.

1           22.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2   following a default therapy protocol if no electrode identification value is received.

1           23.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2   altering a patient treatment protocol such as CPR to conform to the type of patient  
3   being treated.

1           24.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2   indicating use of the infant CPR protocol if the electrodes are identified as infant  
3   electrodes.

1           25.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2   indicating use of the child CPR protocol if the electrodes are identified as child  
3   electrodes.

1           26.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2   following a default CPR protocol if the electrode identification value is not  
3   recognized.

1           27.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2   following a default CPR protocol if no electrode identification value is received.

1           28.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2    indicating use of the CPR protocol recommended by the American Heart Association  
3    if the electrodes are identified as AHA electrodes.

1           29.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2    indicating use of the CPR protocol recommended by the European Resuscitation  
3    Council if the electrodes are identified as ERC electrodes.

1           30.    The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:  
2    indicating use of the CPR protocol recommended by specific organizations if the  
3    electrodes are identified as electrodes specific to that organization.

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